

**Present:** Gene Ellefsen-N0VRM, Bruce Carlson-KE0NIT, Robin Davis, Gary Minter-KD9ABS, Bob Boyd-KD0YLN, Doug Nelson-AA0AW, Bob Schultz-KC0NFB, Kim Waller-KE0NQS, Steve Waller-KE0NQT

**Guest:** Dennis Anderson-W0DIO, Diane Saunders-K0DSL, Paul Vander Horck-AD0YI

Meeting called to order by President Gene-N0VRM at 6:34 pm

**Minutes:**

Available on the web page and in the newsletter, as presented, motion passed

**Treasurer's Report:**

Checking 2,815.96  
Savings 1,371.01  
Cash Subtotal \$4,186.97

Outstanding Check (Repeater # 1414) -1,100.00  
Subtotal -\$1,100.00

Winter CD 1,707.19  
Summer CD 1,700.00  
CD Subtotal \$3,407.19

Grand Total \$6,494.16

As presented, motion carried

Bruce-KE0NIT will be absent on Thursday, August 8, 2019, for the monthly Club meeting as he will be driving to Maryland for his brother-in-law's memorial service. Gene-N0VRM will present his report

**90<sup>th</sup> Aerial Lift Bridge Anniversary:**

Bruce-KE0NIT contacted our ARRL insurance provider concerning the need for the \$2,000,000.00 policy in the City of Duluth's name. They sat on it for two (2) weeks and then asked Bruce-KE0NIT a lot of questions. Part of their concerns are that we are not in a venue, in a building or event center and we are not selling anything, we are not the sponsor. This is frustrating and they relayed the policy will be between \$200.00 and \$400.00

Diane Saunders-K0DSL ran into Dave Miller-W0NWO. He called his insurance agent. Dave-W0NWO and Diane-K0DSL talked to him. Two (2) hours later Diane-K0DSL received this message, working on an event policy, 2 million dollars ARAC, listing the City of Duluth on the certificate. Cost is \$188.00. Bruce-KE0NIT has a quote from our own insurance (ARRL), between \$200.00 to \$400.00 based on the number of people. We can ask for donations at the Club meeting on Thursday or ARAC can pay for it. Any discussion? Not up just to this group. Gary-KD9ABS makes a motion to have ARAC pay for the insurance, Bruce-KE0NIT seconded. Discussion - pros and cons. This is a one-time expense that the Club could pay. Suggestion to approve and get the Club's opinion. Dave-W0NWO's agent is ready to provide the insurance; all he needs is the payment of \$188.00. This is not a money-making event. Call for the vote. Bring this forward to the Club for discussion and vote. There is eleven (11) days to the Event

**Repeater:**

Gene-N0VRM met with Randy Haglin-N0BZZ and gave him a key for Mahtowa. He will stop on his way home this week to start the process of upgrading the Repeater. As for the tower inspection, he has not submitted the

bill because he wants to attend a meeting and explain exactly what was inspected, etc. The site needs to be mowed plus several trees need to be removed, mostly poplars. It was a clump of trees that came down and it was one of them that hit the guy wire for the tower. There is still a bad relay on the power. Bob-KC0NFB is willing to work on it. The generator does work when operated manually

#### ARAC 90th Birthday

December 3, 2019, is ARAC's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday. Suggestion to hold a Special Events Station on that day or for that week. Kim-KE0NQS has the original document for the Club. For the 80th birthday, Club members operated from their homes over the course of a week. Suggestion to use the Club Call/90 to signify the event. Gene will bring this forward to the Club meeting for suggestions and further discussion

#### Payment Assistance Requested:

Randy-N0BZZ relayed that we have Packet and APRS at Tamarack Repeater and at the Aiken Repeater. He is asking for assistance to defray the costs of the electrical bill. He is seeking \$20.00 a month. It is critical to protect the infrastructure, that is part of our Club and that it keeps operating. Suggestion to pay \$120.00 a year, splitting the cost with the Spirit Valley Amateurs. Motion by Bob-KD0LYN, seconded by Bruce-KE0NIT, to split the costs with Spirit Valley Amateurs. Bring this forward to the Club meeting. This type of thing could qualify for grants from other organizations to invest in ARAC and the Ham Community such as Essentia. Our long-range plan includes replacing the twin to the Mahtowa Repeater, our own 94 Repeater. We have emergency power hooked up to the 94 Repeater because of Larry Anderson, WDSE, working together with our Club. Gene-N0VRM found out who their preferred contractor is, which turned out to be Hunt Electric, and we contacted them. Our bill was way less money that budgeted for because of doing our homework. We need to eventually look at Two Harbors. Dick Wolfe is allowing us to rent it by paying the power, which is \$100.00. Spirit Valley Amateurs paid the bill in 2018, 2019 was paid by Dave Miller-W0NWO. The site belongs to Lake County now. They paid for all the infrastructure from the ground up to the top of the tower. They have their own Repeater on it. Suggestion to lay out a five (5) year plan for the Club's infrastructure. We need to look at how we serve our Community and how that impacts our community. We can make a good case and it is vital. We also need to consider our value to the Weather Service. The Skywarn Response Team is not an ARAC function. St. Louis County has become a dry well. The point is valid but we need someone to be diligent in donating their time to do the work to locate possible funding sources

#### Education:

We will be having a Technician class, starting September 24th through December 10th. We will also offer a General or Extra study group at the same time. These will be offered through Community Education. Diane-K0DSL will mentor the General and/or Extra study group

Carlton Fall Fest is September 28, 2019

Motion to adjourn by Bob-KD0LYN, seconded by many, motion passed

Mike-N0PDG, Bruce-KE0NIT and Ryan won the radios at the Club Picnic